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A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) The question whether the future extension of irrigation under the Periyar system should be in Madura and Melur taluks or in the Cumbum valley is under consideration.

(*c*) The need for an improved water-supply in these villages has been brought to notice more than once, but no scheme has yet been devised which is financially practicable.

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" With reference to the answer given to clause (*c*), may I know whether the Government have had any scheme at all till now ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Yes, but no scheme has yet been devised which is financially practicable. That is a matter for the local board concerned."

Progress in the schemes of pumping.

* 2292 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : With reference to the undertaking given at the Legislative Council meeting of 21st March 1924, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state the progress made in the deliberations as to the relative values of the two alternative schemes of pumping referred to therein and the conclusions, if any, arrived at as the result of those deliberations ?

A.—The question of irrigation by pumping and of well irrigation with electric power is still under consideration by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation and the Director of Agriculture, and no final decision has yet been reached. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 11 of the note by the Chief Engineer for Irrigation which was laid on the Council table on the 3rd November 1925 along with the preliminary report of the Ceded Districts Irrigation Committee.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" In the answer given to this question, it is stated that the question of irrigation by pumping, etc., is still under consideration. In the meanwhile, will Government give facilities to private individuals to undertake such work ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is a suggestion for action."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I want to know whether Government have afforded facilities."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice of this question."

Investigation of the Hagari scheme.

* 2293 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : With reference to the statement of the hon. the Law Member in his speech printed at page 281 of Volume 29 of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council, dated 19th March 1926, that the question of appointing a staff for the investigation of the Hagari scheme has been referred to the Revenue Department for remarks and that orders will be passed thereon immediately after the receipt of the report, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the report has been received and the necessary establishment has been sanctioned ?

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A.—The remarks of the Board of Revenue on the question of detailed investigation of the scheme have just been received and the matter is under consideration.

Police.

Police precautions in Nellore during the Hindu procession on 15th March.

*2294 *Q.*—KHADIR MOHIDDIN ELYAS KHAN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many constables, Agency Special Police and Police officers were brought down from other districts for preserving order at the Hindu procession on the 15th March at Nellore and what was the total strength of the said armed escort; and

(*b*) what was the total cost incurred by the Government in order to provide the escort?

A.—(*a*) Seven European Inspectors and Sergeants, one Subadar, 57 men of the East Coast Special Police, 19 head constables and 193 constables were brought from other districts.

The total strength of the armed escort was 7 European Inspectors and Sergeants, one Subadar and 345 Indian ranks.

(*b*) Rs. 4,462-8-9.

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Temples of depressed classes brought under the operation of the Religious Endowments Act.

* 2295 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many temples belonging to depressed classes, barbers and washermen have been brought under the operation of the Religious Endowments Act, together with the names of such temples and places in the Presidency?

A.—The Jagannath temple for Tiyyas at Tellicherry in Malabar and the Pilichamundy devastana for fishermen at Ullal in South Kanara are the only two temples of the kind which have been brought under the operation of the Act.

Village Panchayats.

Honorary organizers of village panchayats.

* 2296 *Q.*—Mr. R. VEERIAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many honorary organizers have been already appointed to the village panchayats from among the depressed classes, giving the names and their addresses, by the Registrar-General of Panchayats with the approval of the Local Government;

(*b*) how many honorary organizers have been appointed already to the village panchayats from among the non-depressed classes up to date giving their names and places;

(*c*) what are the remunerations and other allowances given; and

(*d*) what is the nature of their work?